

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 were pending in this application. Claims 1-3 were withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. New claims 18 and 19 have been added. Claims 4-19 are pending.

The Examiner objected to the drawings. Replacement Figure 5 is submitted herewith providing reference numbers mentioned within the text of the specification. It is believed that this replacement drawing addresses the Examiner's objection.

The Examiner objected to the disclosure due to typographical and other errors. Applicant has amended the specification in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions and has provided definitions of cited acronyms in accordance with the Examiner's request.

Claims 9 and 13 were objected to due to informalities. Applicant has amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Claims 4-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant believes that the amendments address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 4, 7-11, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frew *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,803,632 ("Frew") in view of Sloan, U.S. Patent No. 4,731,575 ("Sloan"). The present invention relates to a value store meter, among other things utilizing direct communication with a host such as a server type of system via an electric power modem such as for requesting a new token when an inner token is exhausted. Claim 4 has been amended to clarify that this type of authorizing/value/payment communication is done via the modem with a host. It is respectfully submitted that neither Frew nor Sloan, either alone or in combination teach this invention, in which such information is gathered from a host via the modem. Accordingly, the rejection respectfully has been traversed.

Dependent claims 5, 6, 12, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frew in view of Sloan and further in view of Reccia *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,039,247 ("Reccia"). These claims depend from independent claim 4. For the reasons noted above, Frew and Sloan fail to teach or suggest the invention Reccia does not make up for these deficiencies. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 5, 6, 12, 16, and 17 is traversed.

Based on the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 50-2298 for any additional required fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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Amendment to the Figures

In accordance with the Examiner's request, Applicant submits herewith replacement Figure 5 on one (1) sheet.